



# Rockville Reports

DECEMBER 2014 • VOL. 60 #10

• A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR THE RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF ROCKVILLE •

## Mayor and Council Hear FY 2016 Budget Preview

*Additional Previews Scheduled for January and February*

Residents got their first look at Rockville's Fiscal Year 2016 budget as the Mayor and Council heard a preview from City staff and discussed their vision for the upcoming year on Nov. 24.

The overview of the general fund, enterprise funds and special revenue funds provided the framework that City Manager Barb Matthews will use to develop her FY16 budget proposal, which is to be presented March 23.

### General Fund

The general fund accounts for most of the City government's daily operations, including police, public works, recreation and parks, and community development.

*Components include:*

- **Real property tax revenue:** The largest component of the general fund. The City's assessable tax base is expected to grow when the next round of property assessments occur in January. Estimates will be presented Feb. 9.
- **Personal property tax revenue:** Estimated to remain flat, at \$3 million.
- **Income tax revenue:** City staff is expected to recom-

mend increasing the FY15 estimate and the FY16 budgeted projection, if revenue continues to grow.

- **Building permits revenue:** Expected to increase from the \$1.3 million estimated in the FY15 budget, due to the amount and type of building activity in the City.
- **Highway user revenue:** Represents a portion of the City's share of state gasoline tax and vehicle registration. Projected to be \$525,000, down from \$1.6 million after one-time increases from the state in FY14 and FY15.

### Enterprise Funds

Enterprise funds operate like private business, with a goal of fully recovering costs through user charges.

#### Water and sewer funds:

A study by an outside consultant recommended water and sewer rate structure changes and increases over the next six fiscal years to address deficits in the funds. The Mayor and Council are considering these recommendations.

**Refuse fund:** Estimated to increase by 3 to 5 percent over the FY15 rate of \$379 per household.

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## Mayor and Council to Host Joint BRT Meeting with Gaithersburg and Montgomery County

Elected officials from Rockville, Gaithersburg and Montgomery County will meet Wednesday, Dec. 3 at Rockville City Hall to discuss the county's bus rapid transit (BRT) system plans.

The meeting is scheduled for 7-8:30 p.m. in the Mayor and Council Chambers at Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave. It will be televised on Rockville 11, cable channel 11, and

streamed on [www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville11](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville11).

Rockville's Mayor and Council recently identified BRT as a key legislative and policy priority to work on with county legislators in the coming year. At the Dec. 3 meeting, leaders will share how they can collaborate on BRT so the project best meets the needs of all area residents.

*continued on pg. 3...*

## Mayor and Council Address Adequate Public Facilities

*A Hearing and a Discussion are Scheduled for January*

The Mayor and Council on Nov. 17 began a review of the City's Adequate Public Facilities Standards (APFS) as they relate to school facilities.

The APFS are designed to ensure adequate public facilities are in place in time to keep up with the demands of new development.

The Mayor and Council will continue to discuss the issue throughout January with:

- A public hearing scheduled for Monday, Jan. 5.

- A vote on whether to adopt any proposed changes scheduled for Monday, Jan. 26.

For more on the Nov. 17 discussion, visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/agendacenter](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/agendacenter) and select the television icon and/or materials next to the meeting date.

Learn how to testify on the issue and how to find broadcasts of Mayor and Council meetings on television and online in the "Connect With Your Mayor and Council" article on page 3. ❖



**Community members, elected leaders and City staff took a walking tour of the Pike on Nov. 1.**

## Mayor and Council Invite Public Input on 'Rockville's Pike Plan'

The Mayor and Council will continue to take public comment on the draft "Rockville's Pike Plan," and are expected to forward their comments to the Planning Commission in the coming months.

Public hearings took place in September, October and November, and elected officials joined community members on a walking tour of the Pike on Nov. 1.

The next public hearing is on Monday, Dec. 8 during the Mayor and Council meeting at 7 p.m. in City Hall. An additional public hearing is expected to be scheduled.

"Rockville's Pike Plan" establishes policies for land use, transportation, parks and other key amenities along the Pike corridor between Richard Montgomery Drive and the City's southern border, just north of Bou Avenue.

This is the first update of a plan for this area since 1989.

The plan seeks to ensure that there is a mix of residential and non-residential uses along the corridor, that existing residential neighborhoods are protected and that the Pike retains and attracts local and national retail to enhance the corridor's economic viability.

To read the plan or the nine-page executive summary, visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/rockvillespike](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/rockvillespike).

Hard copies are available to review at City Hall, the Rockville and Twinbrook libraries, and at Rockville community centers.

Public comments on the plan may be sent to the Mayor and Council at [cityclerk@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:cityclerk@rockvillemd.gov), or by mail to the City Clerk's Office, Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850. ❖

## Rockville Facilities to Close for the Holidays

*Recycling and Refuse Thursday Collections Affected*

All City facilities will be closed on Thursday, Dec. 25, in observance of Christmas Day and Thursday, Jan. 1, in observance of New Year's Day. Many facilities and programs will operate on a limited schedule on Wednesdays, Dec. 24 and 31.

From 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 11, City Hall will be closed for an annual recognition event to thank City employees for their service to the community.

Parking fees at City of Rockville meters will be suspended on Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

Recycling and refuse will not be collected on Dec. 25 or Jan. 1. Recycling and refuse normally collected on Thursdays will be collected on Friday, Dec. 26 and Friday, Jan. 2.

City facilities will operate on the following schedule:

- Croydon Creek Nature Center will be open on Wednesday, Dec. 24; Friday, Dec. 26; and Wednesday, Dec. 31, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
- The F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre box office will be closed from Wednesday, Dec. 24 at 5 p.m. until Tuesday, Jan. 6 at 2 p.m.
- Lincoln Park Community Center, Thomas Farm Community Center and Twinbrook Community Recreation Center will be open Wednesdays, Dec. 24 and 31 and Fridays, Dec. 26 and Jan. 2, from 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
- The Rockville Senior Center will close at 5 p.m. Wednesdays, Dec. 24 and 31.
- The Rockville Swim and Fitness Center will be open Wednesdays, Dec. 24 and 31, from 6 a.m.-4 p.m.

For more information, call 240-314-5000 or visit [www.rockvillemd.gov](http://www.rockvillemd.gov). ❖

## Get Into It...

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**Holiday 'Wrap'**  
Find details on open houses, entertainment and how to give this holiday season.

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**The Main Thing**  
Learn how to report water main breaks and sewer backups.

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**Snow Business**  
Get need-to-know information for when winter weather strikes.

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**En Garde**  
Meet a neighbor who is far from on-the-fence about fencing.

MAYOR & COUNCIL  
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Rockville, Maryland  
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## SEASONAL PICKS

### Oil, Watercolor, Sculpture and More Comes to Glenview Gallery

Glenview Mansion Art Gallery welcomes a varied exhibition in December when the Rockville Art League brings its juried members' exhibition to the gallery.

The exhibition opens with a free reception on Sunday, Dec. 7, from 1-4 p.m. in conjunction with the mansion's Holiday Open House series.

The following musicians will perform during the opening reception on Dec. 7:

- Rockville Singers at 1:15 p.m.
- Victoria Lyric Opera Company at 2:15 p.m.
- Capital Accord Chorus at 3:15 p.m.

The December exhibition will be on display through Jan. 2.

The gallery, located in the mansion at Rockville Civic Center Park, at 603 Edmonston Drive, is wheelchair accessible. It is open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9 a.m.-9 p.m. It is closed on City holidays and will be closed on Christmas and New Year's Day.

Learn more at [www.rockvillemd.gov/glenviewgallery](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/glenviewgallery) or by contacting Julie Farrell at [jfarrell@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:jfarrell@rockvillemd.gov) or 240-314-8682.



### Rockville Town Square Hosts Tree Lighting, Ice Rink Activities

Rockville's Town Center prepared to welcome winter when the ice rink on the Town Square Plaza opened at the end of October.

At 7,200 square feet, the ice rink is the largest of its kind between Baltimore and Washington, D.C., and the largest in Montgomery County. It offers skating lessons and accommodates parties.

Town Square Plaza is located at 131 Gibbs St. Rink hours are:

- Monday-Thursday, Noon-10 p.m.; Friday, Noon-11 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-11 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m.-10 p.m.; Extended hours on holidays

Learn more at [www.rockvilletownsquare.com/at-the-square/ice-rink/](http://www.rockvilletownsquare.com/at-the-square/ice-rink/) or by calling 301-545-1999.

Rockville Town Square's Holiday Open House is 6:30-9 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 4. It will feature Santa's arrival and free photos with Santa, a holiday tree lighting, refreshments, holiday music and more.

Learn more at [www.rockvilletownsquare.com/events/special-events](http://www.rockvilletownsquare.com/events/special-events) or by calling 301-998-8178.

### Senior Center Hosts Holiday Bazaar

Find homemade crafts and baked goods, peruse the book selection, take part in a raffle and get into the holiday spirit at the Rockville Seniors, Inc. Holiday Bazaar.

The bazaar, which is open to all ages, is Saturday, Dec. 6 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive. Learn more at [www.rockvillemd.gov/seniorcenter](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/seniorcenter) or 240-314-8800.

### Eat. Shop. Save Money. Do Good.

Support Rockville nonprofits while shopping at Rockville businesses.

The Rockville Rewards card offers discounts at more than 100 Rockville businesses through Aug. 31, 2015. All proceeds from the card sales go directly to the nonprofit partnered with each business. For more information, visit [www.rockvillerewards.com](http://www.rockvillerewards.com) or call the Rockville Chamber of Commerce at 301-424-9300.



# Holiday 'Wrap'

## Historic Glenview Mansion Hosts Free Holiday Open Houses

Enjoy Rockville's 1926 Glenview Mansion at its finest with holiday trees and other spaces decorated by 20 community organizations during this month's Holiday Open House series.

The theme of the open houses, which are free and open to the public, is "All Living Things Great and Small." Open houses are from 1-4 p.m. on the following Sundays:

**Dec. 7 – The Glenview Mansion Art Gallery's December exhibition opens.**

See the article on this page for opening and musical

performances in conjunction with the holiday open house.

**Dec. 14 – Children's Sunday with Santa and Mrs. Claus.** Kids can visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus, take part in arts and crafts and go on a scavenger hunt throughout the mansion.

- Heavenly Handbells of Trinity Lutheran Church, 1:15 p.m.
- Heart of Maryland Chorus, 2:15 p.m.
- Watkins Mill High School Chamber Singers, 3:15 p.m.

**Dec. 21 – Music and merriment with performances by:**



- Richard Montgomery High School Madrigals, 1:15 p.m.
- The Encore Singers, 2:15 p.m.
- Harmony Express, 3:15 p.m.

**Dec. 28 – Enjoy Glenview Mansion. The mansion and art gallery will be open to visitors.**

Glenview Mansion, which is on the National Register of Historic Places, is located in the 153-acre Rockville Civic Center Park at 603 Edmonston Drive. Learn more at [www.rockvillemd.gov/glenview](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/glenview) or 240-314-8660. Call 240-315-5004 for recorded directions. ✚



## Rockville's Civic Ballet, Concert Band and Chorus Evoke Holiday Spirit at the Fitzgerald Theatre

The City of Rockville supports resident groups – the Rockville Civic Ballet, Rockville Concert Band and Rockville Chorus – which give community members a chance to share their talents in the performing arts.

These groups will present December performances that are sure to delight audiences and get the community into the holiday spirit. Ticket information for the following shows is available at [www.rockvillemd.gov/theatre](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/theatre) or by calling the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre box office at 240-314-8690:

### "The Nutcracker"

Join Clara on her magical journey as Rockville Civic Ballet presents this holiday classic.

Saturdays, Dec. 6 and 13 at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Sundays, Dec. 7 and 14 at 2 p.m.

Tickets are \$17 for adults; \$13 for seniors (60 and older) and for chil-

dren (under 12).

### "Holiday En Pointe"

The Rockville Concert Band will play music from holiday ballets and marches.

Sunday, Dec. 21 at 3 p.m. No tickets required; a \$5 donation is suggested. Learn more at [www.rockvilleconcertband.org](http://www.rockvilleconcertband.org).

### "Holiday Concert"

Take a break from shopping and enjoy the music of the season as performed by the Rockville Chorus. Refreshments will be available in the lobby after the show.

Sunday, Dec. 21 at 7:30 p.m. No tickets required; a \$5 donation is suggested. Learn more at [www.rockvillechorus.com](http://www.rockvillechorus.com).

The box office, at the theater at Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive, is open Tuesday-Saturday, 2-7 p.m. and two hours prior to each ticketed performance. ✚

## The Rockville Holiday Drive Needs Your Help

Give Locally to Help Rockville Families in Need

Make a difference in the lives of Rockville families this season by supporting the City's annual Holiday Drive, which has been distributing toys and gift cards to local families for decades.

Here's how you can help:

- Organize a toy or book drive to collect new unwrapped toys or books. Find a list of items needed at [www.rockvillemd.gov/holidaydrive](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/holidaydrive).
- Donate \$20 gift cards for Target or Giant.
- Send a tax-deductible contribution. Checks should be payable to City of Rockville Holiday Drive Fund, c/o Community Services Division, 111

Maryland Ave., 1st Floor, Rockville, MD 20850.

- Sponsor a family: Individuals or groups buy gifts and food for the December holidays, tailored to a specific family's need (usually valued around \$250).
- Volunteer to wrap toys and work at the "toy shop" where families in need will come to receive gifts. Email [kbouwkamp@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:kbouwkamp@rockvillemd.gov) or call 240-314-8310 for details and to sign up.

For more information, visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/holidaydrive](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/holidaydrive) or contact the City's Community Services Division at 240-314-8310. ✚

## Recycling Reminders for a Greener Holiday

Rockville collects holiday trees as part of its regular recycling collection. Trees are taken to the Montgomery County Recycling Center where they become mulch. The mulch is available year-round and can be picked up, for free, at the center, at 16105 Frederick Road, next to the Shady Grove Processing Facility and Transfer Station.

Residents should place cut trees at the curb for pickup on regular recycling days after removing all ornaments and metals, wires, stands and decorations, including tinsel. Trees should not be bagged.

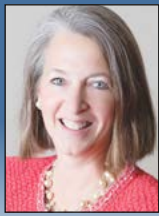
Artificial trees cannot be recycled and should be dismantled and placed in the gray refuse cart for regular weekly collection. Artificial trees that are too large to fit in the cart can be collected by appointment as one of six bulk collections allowed per year, or taken to the transfer station.

For more information on recycling and refuse service, holiday tree collection, or to make a bulk collection appointment, call 240-314-8568.

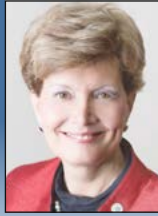
For more environmental tips throughout the year, visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/environment](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/environment). ✚



# Mayor & Council



Mayor  
Bridget Donnell Newton



Councilmember  
Beryl L. Feinberg



Councilmember  
Tom Moore



Councilmember  
Virginia D. Onley



Councilmember  
Julie Palakovich Carr

## Connect With Your Mayor and Council

These are just some of the ways you can stay informed of the business before City leaders and share your thoughts with them:

- **Stay informed:** The Mayor and Council meeting schedule and agendas can be found online at [www.rockvillemd.gov/mayorcouncil](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/mayorcouncil). Staff reports with background information are included with the agendas, which are posted several days before each meeting. Sign up to receive an email or text message when a new agenda is posted by registering your information in the "Notify Me" section, on the left menu of the Mayor and Council Web page.
- **Follow the action in person:** Meetings are held in the Mayor and Council Chambers at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., at 7 p.m. on most Mondays, or view from home on Rockville's channel 11. Live streaming is available at [www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville11](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville11) and on demand at the same link the day after the meeting.
- **Stop by a drop-in session:** The mayor and one councilmember are available to meet with residents one Monday each month at 5:30 p.m. before a Mayor and Council meeting. Find the drop-in schedule at [www.rockvillemd.gov/mayorcouncil](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/mayorcouncil).
- **Speak at Community Forum:** Anyone who wishes can speak for up to three minutes at Community Forum during the meetings. Priority is given to speakers who have signed up in advance by calling the City Clerk's office at 240-314-8280 by 4 p.m. on the day of the meeting, and to those who are speaking on an agenda item.
- **Send an email to [mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov).**
- **Testify at a hearing or in writing to [cityclerk@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:cityclerk@rockvillemd.gov)** or by mail to the City Clerk's Office, Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850.
- **Volunteer to be on a board or commission** (view vacancies at [www.rockvillemd.gov/boardscommissions](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/boardscommissions)). ✚

## 'Mansionization,' APFS and More on the Agenda

Rockville's Mayor and Council's agendas include the following items scheduled in the coming months:

- Previews of the FY16 budget on Jan. 5 and Feb. 9.
- Presentations on Dec. 8 of the Popular Annual Financial Report and the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2014.
- The Planning Commission's annual presentation on Dec. 8.
- A public hearing and work session on the draft "Rockville's Pike Plan" on Dec. 8. For more information, visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/rockvillespike](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/rockvillespike).
- A public hearing on the Adequate Public Facilities

Standards on Jan. 5, with discussions throughout January and a vote on whether to adopt any proposed changes to the standards on Jan. 26.

- A discussion on Jan. 12 of "mansionization"—the impact of building or remodeling houses that are much larger than homes in the surrounding neighborhood.

Rockville's Mayor and Council meet at 7 p.m. Mondays in the Mayor and Council Chambers at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave.

To learn more, read "Connect With Your Mayor and Council" above. ✚

## REDI Recognizes Company with Inaugural 'Rockin' in Rockville' Award

Rockville Economic Development, Inc. (REDI) marked the statewide Economic Development Week from Oct. 26-31 by awarding their first-ever "Rockin' in Rockville" award to EMMES Corporation.

EMMES, which last summer signed a 10-year lease at its headquarters in Rockville, accepted the award at REDI's Resource Meetup on Wednesday, Oct. 29. The award is given to a local company making a difference to the local economy and to the community as a whole.

EMMES is a professional partner to clinicians, scientists, and program leaders around the world, providing scientific and technical support for clinical research studies funded by industry, foundations and government agencies. EMMES has more than 400 employees whose specialties range from biomedical research to biostatistics to information technology. In addition to its headquarters

in Rockville, the company has offices in Canada and India.

As part of the award's application process, EMMES solicited information from employees on why they are "Rockin' in Rockville." Some common themes emerged in the application, including the company's impact on public health, employees' passion for promoting health, and the difference they're making in the community.

"EMMES strives to promote health—both within the company and out in the community," said Dr. Anne Lindblad, president of EMMES. "Through our internal programs geared to foster a healthy, positive work environment, to our community outreach programs such as our schools supply drives and Building Bikes donation program, we are very much walking the walk."

Rockville Mayor Bridget Newton, who attended the meetup, said: "Once again

*continued on pg. 6...*

## Budget Watch FY16

*continued from pg. 1...*

**Stormwater management fee:** Set to increase by more than 8 percent in FY16, to \$121.60, under a plan previously approved by the Mayor and Council. City staff is likely to recommend that the Mayor and Council reduce the fee increase due to the financial health of the stormwater management fund.

### Special Revenue Funds

Special revenue funds include proceeds from fundraising, Community Development Block Grants and speed cameras, among other sources. Revenue from speed cameras is expected to fall short of the estimated \$1.8 million for FY15, due to the program's

success in reducing vehicle speed. Staff is projecting \$1.4 million in revenue for FY16, but could revise the projection.

Staff is redesigning the City's budget book to present information in an easier-to-read, user-friendly format that shows how the City is achieving "critical success factors," which outline the Mayor and Council's shared vision for the community.

To view the Nov. 24 budget preview, visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/agenda-center](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/agenda-center) and select the television icon next to the meeting date. Additional budget previews are scheduled for Jan. 5 and Feb. 9.

For more information, visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/budget](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/budget). ✚

## MEETINGS & DROP IN SCHEDULE

All general sessions, worksessions and public hearings are televised on Rockville channel 11 and are available on streaming video at [www.rockvillemd.gov](http://www.rockvillemd.gov). Residents may comment on any subject for up to three minutes during the "Community Forum" portion at most meetings. Meetings are at 7 p.m. and are subject to change.

- **Dec. 8 (Monday)**
- **Dec. 15 (Monday)**

The mayor and one councilmember are available to meet with residents for drop-in discussions from 5:30-6:30 p.m. one Monday per month in the Mayor and Council office at City Hall. No appointment is necessary, but a call to the City Clerk's office at 240-314-8280 is appreciated. Along with Mayor Newton, the councilmember scheduled this month is Beryl L. Feinberg on Dec. 8.

## IN BRIEF

### 'Mayor and Council One-on-One' Profiles Rockville's Leaders

Get to know Rockville's Mayor and Council in "Mayor and Council One-on-One." This new Rockville 11 special features interviews with Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton and councilmembers Beryl L. Feinberg, Tom Moore, Julie Palakovich Carr and Virginia D. Onley sharing what they love about Rockville and why they chose to run for office.



Learn about their backgrounds, their families and what inspires them to serve.

Find the special on cable channel 11 or by visiting the City's YouTube channel at [www.youtube.com/cityofrockville](http://www.youtube.com/cityofrockville) and searching for "Rockville Mayor and Council One-on-One."

### City Commissions Study of Employee Compensation

The City has hired a consultant to study the City's compensation and job classification systems. The goal of the study is to ensure that the City is able to recruit and retain the best talent possible, and is positioned to respond to market changes now and into the future.

Compensation and classification studies are performed to review job descriptions for accuracy and legal compliance, to examine compensation and benefits offered by other local employers and to maintain competitive and equitable pay.

A critical component of the current study is the Mayor and Council's establishment of a compensation philosophy. The philosophy is expected to address which employers Rockville will benchmark against, define the City's market position related to those organizations, and define how employees' compensation will increase (cost-of-living wage adjustments, step/grade increases, pay for performance, etc.).

The consultant's final recommendations to the City are expected in early 2015.

For more information on the study, view the Oct. 27 Mayor and Council agenda at [www.rockvillemd.gov/agenda-center](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/agenda-center).

### Joint BRT Meeting

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BRT is a high-capacity transit service that involves specialized buses traveling in dedicated lanes separate from other vehicles.

A major focus of the meeting will be on the Maryland Route 355/Rockville Pike BRT routes, which travel through Rockville and Gaithersburg.

Representatives of the County Council and County Executive Isiah Leggett are expected to attend along with staff members from each jurisdiction and representatives from the Maryland Department of Transportation.

To learn more about the BRT project, visit [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rts/](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rts/) or contact Tom Pogue, Montgomery County Department of Transportation Community Relations, at 240-777-7155 or [rapid.transit@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:rapid.transit@montgomerycountymd.gov).



## Rockville Police to Take the Plunge for Special Olympics

Rockville City Police Department officers will once again take a dip in the chilly Chesapeake Bay in January to raise money for Special Olympics Maryland.

A team of officers will participate in the 19th annual Polar Bear Plunge on Friday, Jan. 23 at Sandy Point



State Park from 1-3 p.m. RCPD will participate in a special police plunge, along with other law enforcement agencies from across the state, on the Friday before Saturday's PlungeFest 2015, which is open to the general public.

Anyone who donates or raises \$75 or more through pledges can take the plunge. Rockville's officers participate as a team.

The January event will mark the sixth year that RCPD officers will be taking the plunge. RCPD has raised more than \$21,000 for Special Olympics Maryland over the years. At last year's plunge, five RCPD officers participated and raised more than \$2,800. Rockville K-9 officer Boomer participated in his third plunge and raised \$1,400.

Despite brutally cold temperatures, the 2014 plunge raised \$2.25 million.

To sign up and participate in this year's plunge, visit [www.plungemd.com](http://www.plungemd.com). To contribute to the Rockville officers' plunge team, visit the site and search for "Rockville City Police."

Rockville police support Special Olympics Maryland throughout the year and have sent representatives to the winter and summer games as medal presenters. To learn more about the RCPD, visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/police](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/police).

# In The Community

## Rockville Provides Hotline for Water and Sewer Issues Report Water Leaks Via a 24-Hour Emergency Line

As winter sets in and water main breaks are more common, the City of Rockville's Department of Public Works (DPW) reminds residents of the importance of reporting utilities-related emergencies.

When residents report emergencies or concerns about City services, issues can be addressed efficiently and effectively.

As temperatures rise and fall, water pipes expand and contract and are at greater risk of breaking. Residents who see a water leak are asked to call the 24-hour emergency line at 240-314-8567.

Residents are encouraged to call whenever they see potential water leaks or sewer backups or overflows. Time is an issue in addressing such issues. Left unchecked, leaking pipes and

overflowing sewers can do serious and expensive damage to City infrastructure and private property.

Details about water main breaks and sewer line overflows affecting more than 25 residences and/or businesses in Rockville will be posted at [www.rockvillemd.gov/watersewerbreaks](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/watersewerbreaks).

Not every residence or business within Rockville receives water and sewer service from the City. Thirty percent are served by the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission ([www.wssc.com](http://www.wssc.com)). Residents should check their water utility bill to see if it is issued by the City or WSSC, or may find their service provider by entering their address on a map at [www.rockvillemd.gov/water](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/water).

For more information, call DPW at 240-314-8567. ✚



BEFORE



AFTER

**BIKE LANE ADDED TO CITY'S OVERALL BIKE WAY...** The City recently installed the first new bike lane in Rockville in two years on Broadwood Drive between Baltimore and Veirs Mill roads. Find Rockville's Bikeway Master Plan, map a bicycle route around town and learn about bikeshare and all of Rockville's bicycle facilities and resources at [www.rockvillemd.gov/bicycling](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/bicycling).

Sign up for City of Rockville Emergency Notifications



The Alert Rockville notification system relays up-to-the-minute messages to subscribers about public safety, severe weather and traffic.

Signing up is EASY!

1. Create a username and password.
2. Choose the types of alerts you want to receive.
3. Choose and prioritize your preferred method(s) of delivery – text, phone, email.
4. Enter your information - mobile phone number, home phone number, email.
5. Enter up to five locations.

For more information and to sign up, visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/alerts](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/alerts).



Public Safety • Severe Weather • Traffic

## Nominate a Neighbor for a Human Rights Award

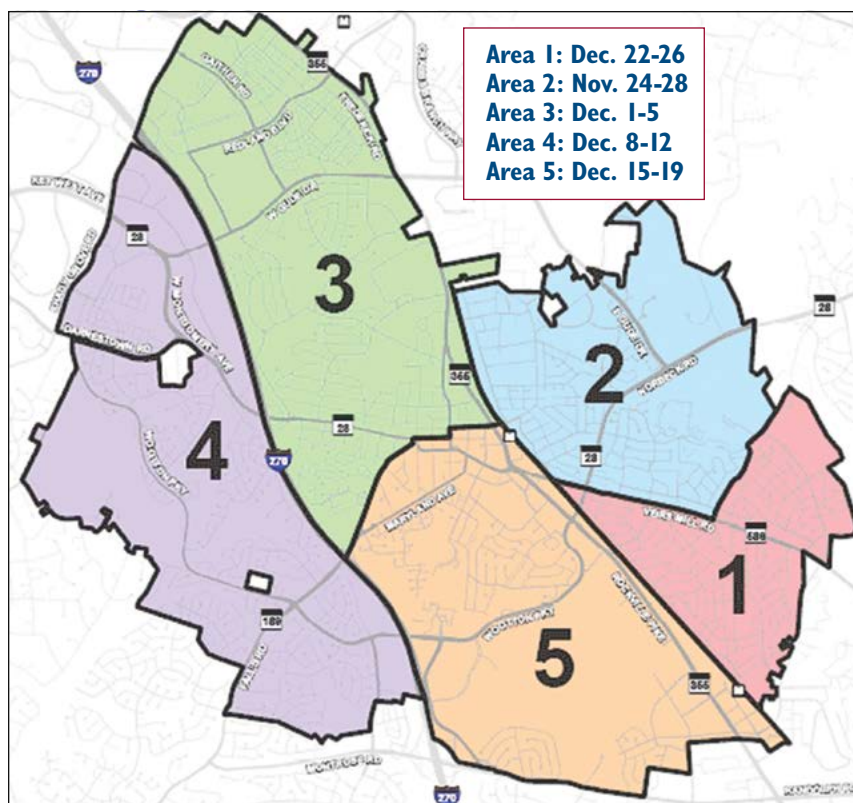
The Martin Luther King Jr. Youth Award will honor a Rockville high school student for helping advance the goals and dreams of Dr. King.

The F. Michael Taff Award will honor an individual, business or organization from Rockville for contributing to improving the lives of people with disabilities.

Winners will be recognized at Rockville's Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration on Monday, Jan. 19.

Nominations will be accepted through Wednesday, Dec. 3. The award program is sponsored by the City's Human Rights Commission.

Find nomination forms and more information at [www.rockvillemd.gov/mlk](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/mlk).



## Fall Leaf Collection Runs Through December Lingering Leaves?

The leaf vacuuming season wraps up in December. Use the interactive map at [www.rockvillemd.gov/leafcollection](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/leafcollection) to find your neighborhood's collection dates.

- **DO:** Place leaves at the curb by 6 a.m. on the collection dates. Remove sticks and other debris.
- **DO NOT:** Use plastic bags. Biodegradable paper lawn bags are acceptable.
- **DO:** Use alternatives methods for disposing of leaves, such as mulching or composting.
- **DO NOT:** Dump leaves, grass clippings or other yard waste into storm drains, along stream banks or into streams.

After fall collection dates, leaves may still be set out in paper lawn bags or 32-gallon trash cans with yard waste on collection days.

For more information, call 240-314-8570.



**ROCKVILLE UNIVERSITY FALL PROGRAM COMPLETED...** Students were recognized by the Mayor and Council on Nov. 10. (L to R): James Richardson, Marva Richardson, Jack Martinelli, Ellen Ryan, Suzanne Hanger, Melissa Duckstein, Lin-Fen Chiou, Lawand Bowman, councilmembers Tom Moore and Virginia D. Onley, Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton, councilmembers Beryl L. Feinberg and Julie Palakovich Carr, Nick Farjam, Mike Stein, Francisco Mendoza, Shawn Murphy, Michael Bobbitt. (Not pictured: Norma Navarro-Noreikis and Richard Noreikis.) The free, six-week program provided a behind-the-scenes look at how Rockville's government operates through workshops, presentations and tours with City staff. Learn more at [www.rockvillemd.gov/rockvilleuniversity](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/rockvilleuniversity).



# Snow Business

## Winter 2013-14 Snowfall Totals

Winter 2013-2014 was one of the snowiest on record in the Washington metropolitan region. Rockville recorded its first measurable snowfall on Dec. 10 and its last measurable snowfall on March 26. Here are some numbers showing how all that snow stacked up.

Snow response events in Rockville:.....25\*  
 Snowfall at Dulles International Airport:.....52.8 inches  
*(third highest total since 1963)*  
 Snowfall at Dulles International Airport in March:.....19.8 inches  
*(snowiest on record)*  
 Road salt used by the City of Rockville:.....6,414 tons  
*(See the graph showing salt usage over the past 10 years.)*  
 Snow response budget for FY 2014: .....\$325,550  
 Snow response expenditures for FY 2014: .....\$652,194

\*"Snow response events" means that City crews were available or actually responded to snowfall. The 25 such events in winter 2013-14 were the most since 2008.

Source: "Briefing on 2013-2014 Snow Response," presented to the Rockville Mayor and Council, May 19, 2014. To view the briefing, visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter) and click on the television icon next to the meeting date.



## Snow Emergencies

Significant, deep snow could lead the city manager to declare a snow emergency. If a snow emergency is declared, the City will announce the status through local media, via the City's website and on Rockville 11.

Snow emergencies were declared last winter, on Feb. 11 and on March 2.

The snow emergency ordinance states:

- The city manager may invoke snow emergency parking restrictions.
- The City may remove or impound cars improperly parked.
- Residents with driveways must park all vehicles there.
- Residents without driveways, or who have more vehicles than will fit in the driveway, may park on the even-numbered side of the street only.
- In courts or cul-de-sacs, where house numbers are not even on one side of the street and odd on the other, parking is allowed only on the left side of the streets as one enters the cul-de-sac or court.

- No parking is allowed in the bulb of the cul-de-sac or court.
- A \$100 fine may be incurred for a snow emergency parking violation.

Once a snow emergency is declared, pay special attention to the City's website, Alert Rockville, Facebook and Twitter for updates. Learn how to connect through social media and email updates at [www.rockvillemd.gov/connections](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/connections).

Sign up to receive emergency notifications through the new and improved Alert Rockville at [www.rockvillemd.gov/alerts](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/alerts).

Be prepared for winter weather by maintaining an adequate supply of shovels and ice melting chemicals for sidewalks and driveways. Clear ice, snow and leaves from around fire hydrants and storm drains, and avoid shoveling snow into the street when possible. Following these tips will help the City return to normal operations as quickly as possible. ❄

## Snow Response Budget vs. Expenditures, FY09-FY15

The blizzard of February 2010 –also known as the "Snowmageddon" storm – was the costliest in the past six years in terms of the City's snow response.

FY	Adopted Budget	Actual Expenses	Variance
2009	\$160,070	\$176,505	\$ 16,435 (10%)
2010	\$191,800	\$1,172,387	\$980,587 (511%)
2011	\$207,560	\$458,117	\$250,557 (121%)
2012	\$352,730	\$167,763	-\$184,967 (-52%)
2013	\$314,570	\$228,569	-\$ 86,001 (-27%)
2014	\$325,550	\$652,194	\$328,657 (101%)
2015	\$325,550	---	---

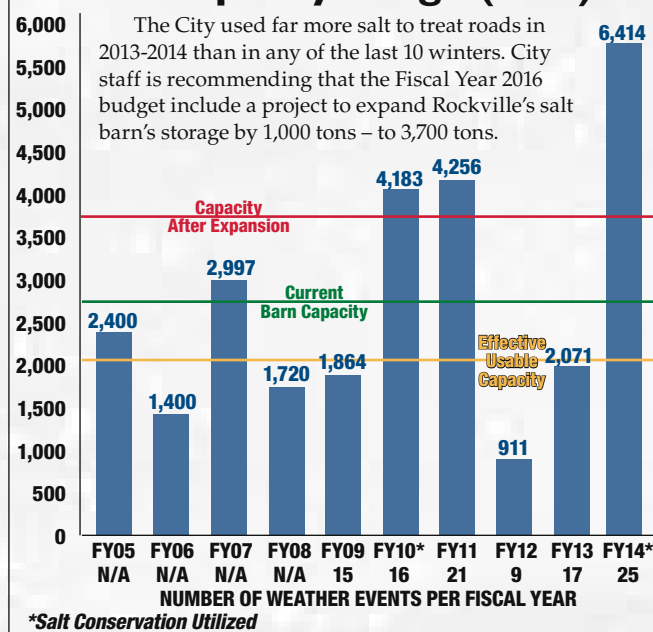
Source: "Briefing on 2013-2014 Snow Response," presented to the Rockville Mayor and Council, May 19, 2014. To view the briefing, visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter) and click on the television icon next to the meeting date.



## Important Telephone Numbers When It Snows

Emergency ..... 911  
 Rockville City Police Department  
 (non-emergency) ..... 240-314-8900  
 Report a Downed Tree to the City ..... 240-314-8700  
 City of Rockville Department of Public Works .... 240-314-8500  
 Rockville City Hall ..... 240-314-5000  
 City of Rockville Recreation Programs  
 Cancellation Line ..... 240-314-5023  
 If Montgomery County Public Schools close or have a two-hour delay, morning recreation programs will be canceled. Call after 1:30 p.m. for an update on afternoon and evening classes.  
 Find Snow Removal Help or Volunteer  
 to Help Through the City ..... 240-314-8810  
 Report a Power Outage to Pepco ..... 1-877-737-2662  
 Montgomery County Fire and Rescue  
 Service (non-emergency) ..... 240-683-6520

## Salt Capacity/Usage (tons)



## WINTER IS COMING...

### Rockville Inclement Weather Updates

When winter weather strikes, turn to the City's website ([www.rockvillemd.gov](http://www.rockvillemd.gov)) for information about delays and closings affecting City facilities and programs.

When weather has the possibility of affecting a City program, meeting or facility, every attempt is made to maintain standard operations. Decisions about whether to cancel morning programs or close facilities will be made by 6 a.m., with an update at 9 a.m. A decision on afternoon and evening programs will be made at 1:30 p.m., with an update at 4 p.m.

Those updates can be found on the home page of the City's website; Rockville 11 (cable channel 11) or through updated phone lines.

For more information, visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/weather](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/weather).

### Snow Removal

Clearing city streets and sidewalks is a difficult process that takes time, hard work and good communication between residents, business owners and the City.

The City clears snow from 160 lane miles of roadways, 30 miles of publicly owned sidewalks, walkways and pathways, and 18 City-owned facilities and parks with parking lots. The City removes snow at bus shelters via a contractor. City crews treat and plow roads in the following priority order:

1. Primary roads, including major arterial roads, emergency routes, streets in central business districts and residential roads near schools.
2. Secondary roads, including neighborhood streets, alleyways and cul-de-sacs.

### Snow Removal on Sidewalks

Removing snow from sidewalks, driveways and entrances is the responsibility of the property and/or business owner or occupant unless a community association has assumed the responsibility. Snow and ice must be cleared from all paved sidewalks abutting a property as follows:

- Up to 3 inches: Clear within 24 hours.
- 3 to 9 inches: Clear within 48 hours.
- 10 inches or more: Clear within 72 hours.

If residents living next to a fire hydrant are able to do so, they should clear snow from the hydrant.

City crews will clear roads and certain sidewalks depending on the severity of the storm. Sidewalks and pathways that abut publicly-owned property are cleared by crews from City departments.

For answers to frequently asked questions about snow removal, visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/winterweather](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/winterweather).

### Help a Neighbor in Need

The Rockville Senior Center connects volunteers with seniors who need help clearing snow from around their homes following winter storms.

Volunteers should call the senior center at 240-314-8810. Officials will work to pair volunteers with a senior in need in the volunteer's neighborhood.

Community members are encouraged to check on elderly neighbors and others who might face special challenges during inclement weather.

Anyone in Montgomery County who is in an emergency situation and needs assistance to stay warm can visit the county Crisis Center at 1301 Piccard Drive in Rockville. The hotline and center are staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

If you see someone in need, call Montgomery County's 24-Hour Crisis Center Hotline at 240-777-4000.

For more information, visit [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/hhs/programindex/crisservicesindex.html](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/hhs/programindex/crisservicesindex.html).



## THINGS TO DO IN ROCKVILLE

### Sign Up for the 5K Winter Walk/Run Program

If your new year's resolution is to walk your way to improved health and fitness, the City's new 5K Winter Walk/Run Program is just the thing.

The program, open to adults and organized by the City of Rockville and Montgomery County Road Runners Club (MCRRC), will meet on Tuesdays at a Rockville-based track and Saturdays at an area park from January through March. MCRRC members can join for \$45. Non-members can join for \$55.

For more information, visit [www.mcrrc.org](http://www.mcrrc.org) or call the City's recreation line at 240-314-8620.



### Spend a No-School Day at a Rockville 'Fun Daze' Program

Looking for something for the kids to do when Montgomery County Public Schools are closed? Staff at Rockville's Lincoln Park, Thomas Farm and Twinbrook community centers are planning fun themed activities for no-school days. Activities include games, sports, special activities and crafts.

The programs, which are \$45 per day for Rockville residents and \$45 for non-residents, are open to kids in kindergarten through fifth grade and run from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Participants should bring a lunch.

#### Monday, Dec. 29

- Lincoln Park, course #48937
- Thomas Farm, course #48152
- Twinbrook, course #48935

#### Tuesday, Dec. 30

- Lincoln Park, course #48938
- Thomas Farm, course #48153
- Twinbrook, course #48936

Register online at [rockenroll.rockvillemd.gov](http://rockenroll.rockvillemd.gov) or in person at any City recreation facility or City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave. Learn more about recreation in Rockville at [www.rockvillemd.gov/recreation](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/recreation) or by calling 240-314-8620.



### City Helps Seniors Get Around Town

The Rockville Senior Center provides free bus rides to seniors age 60 and older who live in the corporate limits of the City of Rockville (they do not need to be senior center members).

- Bus service to the Rockville Senior Center at 1150 Carnation Drive
- Bus service to grocery shopping
- Subsidized taxi coupons

Call the Rockville Senior Center's transportation line at 240-314-8810 for details and bus schedules. For more information, visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/seniorcenter](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/seniorcenter).

# Winter Activities

## Register for Winter Recreation Programs This Month Most Programs Begin the Week of Jan. 5

Get into it and stay active this winter!

From fencing instruction for children, cooking for adults and "First Ladies of the U.S." discussions for seniors, there is sure to be something of interest to you and your family at Rockville's community centers.

Take advantage of all the



City has to offer by signing up for a winter recreation program this month. Registration opens to all on Tuesday, Dec. 9 (swim and senior center members can register for those facilities' programs starting Thursday, Dec. 4). Most programs begin the week of Jan. 5.

Copies of the winter recreation guide are available

at City recreation facilities and City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., or view it at [www.rockville.md.gov/recreation/guide](http://www.rockville.md.gov/recreation/guide). Register online at [rockenroll.rockvillemd.gov](http://rockenroll.rockvillemd.gov) or in person at any City recreation facility or City Hall.

Learn more about recreation in Rockville at [www.rockvillemd.gov/recreation](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/recreation) or by calling 240-314-8620. ❄️

## Rockville Offers Seniors Health and Wellness Support

Rockville residents age 60 and older can benefit from free wellness support provided at the Rockville Senior Center.

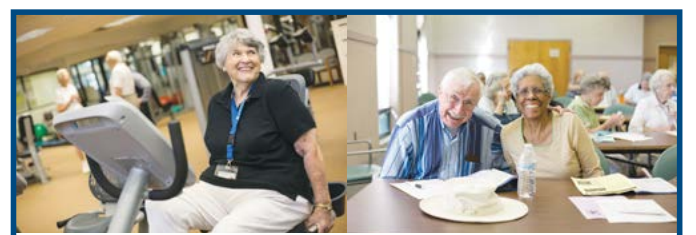
The center's Support Services Division is a lifeline for those who may be isolated, lonely or depressed – feelings that may be more prominent during the winter and holiday season. The division provides:

- Stress reduction/meditation classes.
- Health screenings and immunizations.
- One-on-one psychological counseling twice weekly and ongoing support groups with a social worker.

- Health and wellness counseling and information.
- Group and individual counseling sessions in Spanish.
- Educational programs in Spanish and English.

Call the wellness line at 240-314-8803 for more information or to request services. Learn about customized individual assistance, home visits from staff and resource referrals by calling 240-314-8816 (English) or 240-314-8817 (Spanish).

Learn more about the senior center at [www.rockville.md.gov/seniorcenter](http://www.rockville.md.gov/seniorcenter). The center is located at 1150 Carnation Drive. ❄️



### ROCKVILLE IS A GREAT PLACE TO BE A SENIOR

#### Stop by the senior center for:

- recreation, education, fitness programs
- counseling services
- home maintenance and repair help
- transportation to local destinations
- daily lunch program
- special events

#### Center Hours of Operation:

M-F, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat., 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m.;  
Fitness Room: M-F, 7 a.m.-7 p.m.; Sat. 7 a.m.-3 p.m.  
1150 Carnation Drive, Rockville

[www.rockvillemd.gov/seniorcenter](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/seniorcenter) • 240-314-8800

## Get Rockville's Best Events in Your Inbox Each Week

"This Week in Rockville" is the City's events e-letter, reaching thousands of residents each

week. Sign up and you'll hear about:

- Special events.
- Art gallery openings.

- Shows at the Fitzgerald Theatre.
- Classes and programs at the City's recreation centers.

- Other community happenings.

View and sign up at [www.rockvillemd.gov/thisweek](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/thisweek). ❄️

### REDI Awards

continued from pg. 3...

REDI's support and involvement in the City of Rockville offers another example of why Rockville is the place to be."

Councilmember Beryl L. Feinberg said the meetup provided "a wonderful meet-and-greet opportunity where local businesses can connect with each other as well as the local government. I wish them all success."

Councilmember Julie Palakovich Carr said: "REDI does a great job at facilitating connections in Rockville. This fosters success through pairing up businesses that will thrive together in our city."

For more information, visit [www.rockville.redi.org](http://www.rockville.redi.org). ❄️

## Donate to our COAT DRIVE

JAN. 2 THROUGH JAN. 8



### Drop Off Locations

- Shady Grove Hospital**  
15001 Shady Grove Rd, Rockville, MD 20850
- Lincoln Park Community Center**  
357 Frederick Ave.
- Rockville City Hall**  
111 Maryland Ave.
- Rockville Police Station**  
2 W. Montgomery Ave.
- Rockville Swim and Fitness Center**  
355 Martin's Ln.
- Thomas Farm Community Center**  
700 Falls Grove Dr.
- Twinbrook Community Rec. Center**  
12920 Twinbrook Pkwy.

Lincoln Park Community Center has teamed up with Burlington Coat Factory and Shady Grove Hospital for their 8th Annual One Warm Coat Drive. Drop off coats (any size new or gently used) from Friday, Jan. 2 through Thursday, Jan. 8.



240-314-8780

[www.rockvillemd.gov/lpcc](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/lpcc)

If your company or organization would like to support the coat drive either with donated coats or a financial contribution, contact Yvette Yeboah, LPCC supervisor, at [lpcc@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:lpcc@rockvillemd.gov) or 240-314-8783.



## FACILITIES ADDRESSES AND PHONE NUMBERS

- **Glenview Mansion Art Gallery** **GM**, Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive.
- **F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre** **FSF**, Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive.
- **Croydon Creek Nature Center** **CC**, Rockville Civic Center Park, 852 Avery Road. Note: Registration required, register online at [www.rockvillemd.gov](http://www.rockvillemd.gov) or call 240-314-8770.
- **Rockville Senior Center** **SR**, 1150 Carnation Drive. Call 240-314-8800.
- **Rockville City Hall** **CH**, 111 Maryland Ave. Call 240-314-5000.



Rockville offers a variety of classes and programs each season. Find something that interests you at [www.rockvillemd.gov/recreation/guide](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/recreation/guide).

**3 BRT Joint Meeting** Officials discuss the bus rapid transit (BRT) system plans. 7-8:30 p.m. See article on page 1 for details. **CH**

**4 Registration for winter recreation programs** opens to Rockville Swim and Fitness Center and Rockville Senior Center members. Visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/recreation/guide](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/recreation/guide) to see programs.

**5 Late Night at Thomas Farm Community Center** Enjoy a night out with friends at the community center with music and dancing, games in the gym, computers and video games and crafts. Refreshments will be sold. Open to grades 3-6. Fee at the door is \$10 for City residents / \$15 for non-residents starting at 6:30 p.m.

# December Calendar

R = Residents • NR = Non Residents • MEM = Member • NM = Non Member

**6,7,13,14** “The Nutcracker” presented by Rockville Civic Ballet. See article on page 2 for show times and ticket information. **FSF**

**6 Rockville Seniors Inc. Holiday Bazaar** at the Rockville Senior Center Handmade crafts, vendors, book sale, bake sale, thrift shop, raffle and much more. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. **SR**

**6 Croydon Creek Campfire: Misunderstood Animals** Some animals are hard to love; maybe it is because they have sharp teeth and fly around at night or maybe they have too many legs (or not enough)! Find out more about some of these often misunderstood animals and the important roles they play in our ecosystem. All children must be accompanied by an adult. 6-7 p.m. Register for course #48850. **CC**

**7 Natural Holiday Crafts** Spend the afternoon using a variety of natural or recycled objects to make holiday crafts and ornaments. Each participant will complete at least three projects. Adult participation required for children under age 8. Ages 3-10. 10-10:45 a.m. Register by Nov. 30 for course #48858. **CC**

**7 Peerless Rockville's 35th Annual Awards Ceremony and Holiday Open House** Honoring individuals, institutions, organizations and businesses for outstanding contributions to Rockville's heritage. The ceremony will be held during the first hour of an open house at the historic Red Brick Courthouse, 29 Courthouse Square, Rockville. Light hors d'oeuvres and jazz. Free. Call 301-762-0096 or visit [www.peerlessrockville.org](http://www.peerlessrockville.org). 1-5 p.m.

**7,14,21,28 Holiday Open Houses at Glenview Mansion** 1-4 p.m. See article on page 2 for details.

**7 Gallery Opening Reception and Sunday Afternoon Concert** at Glenview Mansion See article on page 2.

**9 Registration for winter recreation programs** opens to all. Register online via [rockenroll.rockvillemd.gov](http://rockenroll.rockvillemd.gov) or in person at City Hall or Rockville recreation facilities. Call 240-314-8620 for more information.

**13 Gingerbread House Workshop** Get a taste of what it feels like to be an elf at the North Pole workshop and build your very own gingerbread house for the holidays. Fee includes one house and all the sweet decorating supplies. Working conditions will include plenty of cookies and hot cocoa. For ages 5 and older. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Register for course #49104. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at Thomas Farm Community Center.



**13 Rockville Holiday Drive Toy Shop Distribution** 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m. at Elwood Smith Community Center. See article on page 2 to learn how to get involved.



**16 Tiny Tot Winter Wonderland** This special event is designed just for preschool children and an adult. Children will enjoy a morning of crafts, games, refreshments and holiday fun. Register for course #49102. 10 a.m.-noon at Thomas Farm Community Center.



**20 Bookworms: When It Starts to Snow** Curl up with a good book at the nature center. We'll read a new story and you'll get a copy of the book to take home. Event may include a craft or hike. Adult participation required. Ages 2-5. 10-10:45 a.m. Register for course #48859. **CC**

**20 Cookies with Santa** Enjoy Santa's Workshop for an afternoon of activities. Visit with Santa and take photos, listen to holiday stories, take part in writing letters to Santa in the North Pole and make crafts for gifts and more. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Thomas Farm Community Center. 2-4 p.m. \$4/person at door (children under 1 free).

**21 “Holiday En Pointe”** presented by the Rockville Concert Band 3 p.m. See article on page 2. **FSF**

**21 Holiday Concert** presented by the Rockville Chorus 7:30 p.m. See article on page 2. **FSF**

**25 Christmas Day** See article on page 1.



**29,30 Community Center Fun Daze** Looking for something for the kids to do when school is closed? Community center staff is planning fun themed activities for these no-school days. Games, sports, crafts and more are included. Bring a lunch. Open to grades K-5. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Call the centers at 240-314-8780 (Lincoln Park), 240-314-8840 (Thomas Farm) or 240-314-8830 (Twinbrook) for course numbers and to register.

## Boards and Commissions

Meetings are held at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., unless otherwise noted. Please check the City website for the latest on cancellations, rescheduling and contact information at [www.rockvillemd.gov/boardscommissions](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/boardscommissions).

**3 Human Rights Commission** 7:30 p.m.

**3 Rockville Bicycle Advisory Committee** 7 p.m. Meets the first Wednesday of the month.

**4 Environment Commission** 7:30 p.m. Meets the first Thursday of the month.

**4 Recreation and Parks Advisory Board** 7 p.m. at Glenview Mansion.

**6 Board of Appeals** 9 a.m. Meets the second Saturday of the month and is televised on Rockville 11.

For the most up-to-date event listings visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/thisweek](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/thisweek) and sign up for the weekly email newsletter.

**9 Human Services Advisory Commission** 7:30 p.m. Meets the second Tuesday of the month.

**10 Cultural Arts Commission** 7 p.m. Meets the second Wednesday of the month.

**10 Planning Commission** 7 p.m. Meets the second and fourth Wednesday of the month and is televised on Rockville 11.

**16 Rockville Seniors Inc.** 1 p.m. Meets the third Tuesday of the month at the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive.

**17 Rockville Housing Enterprises** 6:30 p.m. Meets the third Wednesday of the month at 621-A Southlawn Lane.

**18 Historic District Commission** 7:30 p.m. Meets the third Thursday of the month.

**18 Senior Citizens Commission** 1 p.m. Meets the third Thursday of the month at the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive.

**23 Traffic and Transportation Commission** 8:30 p.m. Meets the fourth Tuesday of the month.

## Vacancies

To learn more about any board or commission, call the City Clerk's office at 240-314-8280 or visit [www.rockvillemd.gov](http://www.rockvillemd.gov). The City is seeking applicants for:

- Cultural Arts Commission (2)
- Environment Commission (1)
- Historic District Commission (1)
- Human Rights Commission (3)
- Human Services Advisory Commission (2)
- Landlord Tenant Affairs Commission (2)
- Personnel Appeals Board (3)
- Recreation and Parks Advisory Board (2)
- Rockville Recreation and Parks Foundation, Inc. (1)
- Rockville Housing Enterprises (1)
- Rockville Sister City Corporation (2)
- Senior Citizens Commission (3)

FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE EVENT LISTING, VISIT [WWW.ROCKVILLEMD.GOV](http://WWW.ROCKVILLEMD.GOV)

## Cierres por días festivos, agendas del Alcalde y del Concejo y recolección de hojas de otoño

Lo siguiente es un resumen de los principales artículos de esta edición de “Rockville Reports”:

### Las instalaciones de Rockville cerrarán por días festivos

La Alcaldía y todas las instalaciones de la Ciudad estarán cerradas el jueves, 25 de diciembre por el día de Navidad y el jueves, 1 de enero por Año Nuevo. Muchas de las instalaciones y programas tendrán horarios limitados el miércoles, 24 de diciembre y el 31 de diciembre. No se recogerán los materiales reciclables y basura el 25 de diciembre o el 1 de enero. Los materiales reciclables y la basura que se recogen normalmente los jueves se recogerán el viernes, 26 de diciembre y el viernes, 2 de enero.

bre y el viernes, 2 de enero.

### Instalaciones públicas adecuadas y más en las agendas del Alcalde y del Concejo

Los estándares de instalaciones públicas adecuadas de la Ciudad (APFS por sus siglas en inglés), el bosquejo del plan de Rockville Pike, y las previsiones para el presupuesto del Año Fiscal 2016 se encuentran en las agendas venideras del Alcalde y del Concejo de Rockville. Los estándares de instalaciones públicas adecuadas de la ciudad están diseñados para asegurar que existan instalaciones públicas adecuadas con la anterioridad suficiente para mantenerse a la altura de las exigencias de un nuevo desarrollo. Se ha fijado una audiencia pública

sobre el tema para el 5 de enero y un taller sobre el bosquejo del “Plan de Rockville Pike” para el 8 de diciembre. Las previsiones para el presupuesto del Año Fiscal 16 están fijadas para el 5 de enero y el 9 de febrero.

### La recolección de hojas de otoño se llevará a cabo hasta finales de diciembre

La época de aspirar hojas se acabará en diciembre. Utilice el mapa interactivo que se encuentra en [www.rockvillemd.gov/leafcollection](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/leafcollection) para ver las fechas de recolección de su vecindario.

### La colecta navideña de donaciones de Rockville necesita su ayuda

Cambie las vidas de las familias de

Rockville en estas fiestas apoyando la Colecta Navideña de Donaciones anual de la Ciudad, la cual ha repartido juguetes y tarjetas de regalo a familias del área por décadas. Entérese de cómo puede ayudar visitando [www.rockvillemd.gov/holidaydrive](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/holidaydrive) o llamando a la División de Servicios a la Comunidad de la Ciudad al 240-314-8310.

Para obtener más información en español, busque los comunicados de prensa sobre los temas antedichos y otros temas en el sitio web [www.rockvillemd.gov/news](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/news). Luego haga clic en la casilla “Select Language” (“Elija Idioma”) que se encuentra en la esquina inferior del lado derecho de la página. ❄️



## Rockville Receives Awards for Beautification Efforts

The City of Rockville's Recreation and Parks Department was recently recognized with seven awards as part of the 28th annual Keep Montgomery County Beautiful awards.

The Montgomery County Department of Transportation sponsors the Keep Montgomery County Beautiful program. The program recognizes community groups, businesses, public institutions and other organizations that undertake landscaping projects to enhance the appearance of commonly owned sections of commercial or residential properties, or the appearance along roadsides, medians or other public locations.

Rockville received six awards of excellence in the Cityscape category, which recognizes parks and municipal street plantings. The awards are for:

- The East Rockville Greenway.
- James Monroe Park.
- The Ponds at Falls Grove.
- The Pump House at Croydon Park.
- Mattie J.T. Stepanek Park.
- Veterans Park.

In addition, the Veirs Mill Road Landscape Enhancements project was recognized for its second year of sustained excellence.

For more information about Rockville's parks, visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/parks](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/parks).



## Donate Used Tennis Equipment to Kids in Need

Cleaning out your garage, attic or shed? Find any old tennis equipment? Why not donate it to needy kids who are learning the game?

A local nonprofit, Leveling the Playing Field, has partnered with the United States Tennis Association to collect used tennis equipment and ensure that children in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area can enjoy the sport.

The City of Rockville is hosting drop-off sites for equipment donations through Monday, Dec. 15 at Thomas Farm Community Center, 700 Falls Grove Drive, and the Rockville Swim and Fitness Center, 355 Martins Lane.

Learn more about Leveling the Playing Field at [www.levelingthefield.org](http://www.levelingthefield.org). Learn about other ways to contribute to recreational opportunities for youth at [www.rockvillemd.gov/donate](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/donate).

## Don't Celebrate the Holidays With Clogged Pipes

A holiday reminder: When your feast is finished, don't pour fats, oils and grease (FOG) down the kitchen sink. FOG poured down sinks solidifies when deposited into sewer lines, trapping solids and forming hard deposits that build up and eventually cause blockages and breaks in City pipes and can contribute to basement backups in homes.

Here are some tips to prevent sewer clogs and blockages:

- Avoid placing food that contains FOG in the garbage disposal.
- Scrape food and grease into the garbage before washing dishes.
- Use a paper towel or napkin to absorb cooking oil or grease before washing dishes.
- Pour FOG into an empty can, let it cool to solidify and dispose of it as refuse.

Questions? When in doubt, don't throw it out. Contact the City's Environmental Management Division at 240-314-8870.

# Neighborhood Notes

## Meet Your Neighbor: Castilla F. McNamara

In 2007, Castilla McNamara was looking through a City of Rockville recreation guide and came across information about a beginning fencing class. She had never fenced before, but needed to increase her bone density to minimize osteoporosis. She signed up for a class and never looked back.

Seven years and a lot of training and hard work later, McNamara is the captain of "Rocking Geriatrics," a one-of-a-kind three-weapon fencing team. The team, which has two members over the age of 70, recently represented the United States at an event in the Caribbean and came back with 15 medals.

As a certified professional coach, McNamara specializes in coaching women and veterans and



has been working toward advanced certification in all three fencing weapons (foil, epee and saber). McNamara is a certified referee and keeps up with the latest rule changes. During the last season, McNamara's students included a national medalist in all three weapon categories.

Reflecting on her own accomplishments in fencing, McNamara said: "Yes, a geriatric woman can do all these things."

Rockville continues to offer fencing for youth and adults through

the Rockville Fencing Academy, which provides fun and challenges to varying levels of fencers.

Learn about fencing classes in the winter recreation guide at [www.rockvillemd.gov/guide](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/guide) or by calling 240-314-8620. ✦

*Meet Your Neighbor is a regular feature in Rockville Reports and on Rockville 11 highlighting the unique individuals that make our community a special place. To suggest someone for a future episode and article, email [meetyourneighbor@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:meetyourneighbor@rockvillemd.gov).*



## Volunteer Tutors Needed for 'Study Buddy' Program

Help Rockville's children by volunteering to mentor a student in an afterschool program at a local elementary school.

Students and their tutors – study buddies – will meet once or twice weekly for one hour, working on homework together, developing study skills and working to improve overall academic performance. Tutoring may be done one-on-one or in a group setting.

Tutors need to commit to a five-week session and must have reliable transportation. Volunteers will be screened and fingerprinted before being accepted as a tutor.

For more information or to volunteer, contact Stephanie Ezequiel at 240-314-8643 or [sezequiel@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:sezequiel@rockvillemd.gov). ✦

## Community Members Wanted for Rockville Television Project

*'Our Town' Production Seeks Video of People, Places and Events*

The production of "Our Town—Rockville," a Maryland Public Television (MPT) documentary, is giving community members a chance to join the Mayor and Council in telling Rockville's story.

The latest in MPT's series of 60-minute programs will illustrate what makes Rockville a special place to live and work, through original film footage and commentary from area residents. The program will feature local landmarks and points of interest, with residents telling what they like about living and working in the community.

Members of the Rockville community met in September to select the special characteristics, themes and stories that "Our Town—Rockville" will feature. Among the topics selected were Rockville's history; neighborhoods, parks and community; economic development; education, including Montgomery College; and culture, arts and events.



Now it's time to start telling Rockville's story. Community members are encouraged to get involved by signing out MPT-provided handheld cameras to record video of Rockville's everyday events, people and places. Community members interested in recording video should complete the participation form at [www.rockvillemd.gov/ourtown](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/ourtown). The form asks about potential participants, their interests and their ability to take part in the project.

Video cameras may be signed out from the Recreation and Parks Department office in Rockville City Hall, at 111 Maryland Ave. Cameras

may be signed out for two weeks at a time. To inquire about camera availability, to sign out a camera, or for more information, call 240-314-8620.

Community members also are encouraged to submit home videos showing "their Rockville." The community will gather video footage until May, when MPT will begin editing the final cut. A prerelease screening of the documentary will be held in Rockville in September. It will be broadcast on MPT beginning in October 2015.

A full list of topics and updates about the production of "Our Town—Rockville" are available at [www.rockvillemd.gov/ourtown](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/ourtown). ✦



Scan this QR code with your smartphone to visit the City of Rockville's website. If you don't already have a QR code reader on your phone, there are plenty of free apps you can download. When you have an app installed, point your phone's camera at the code and the website will appear in your phone's web browser.



## Get Into It

### Mayor

BRIDGET DONNELL NEWTON

### Councilmembers

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TOM MOORE

VIRGINIA D. ONLEY

JULIE PALAKOVICH CARR

**City Manager:** Barbara B. Matthews

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